



13



ABSOLUTE POWER TIE-IN

GREEN LANTERN



ADAMS
PASARIN
ALBERT
FAJARDO JR.



ALSO FEATURING:
**THE PATIENT
BLADE**

GUGGENHEIM - CLARK - HERMS

13+

TEEN

FROM THE WORLD OF DARK KNIGHTS OF STEEL

BLOOD RUNS COLD AS DEATHSTROKE
STALKS THE FROZEN WASTELAND

DARK KNIGHTS OF STEEL ALLWINTER

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Written by
JAY KRISTOFF

Art by
TIRSO

Variant cover featured by
FRANCESCO MATTINA

Plus a universe-expanding backup story by
TOM TAYLOR and RICCARDO FEDERICI!

HEROES YOU KNOW
WORLDS YOU DON'T



6 ISSUES | JULY

THE ISLAND NATION OF GAMORRA. EARTH!



MY NAME IS
HAL JORDAN.

I MAY NOT LOOK IT
RIGHT NOW...BUT I'M
THE HAPPIEST GUY
IN THE UNIVERSE.

SHE CAME BACK...FOR
ME. I CAN BARELY WRAP MY
HEAD AROUND IT. BUT CAROL
CAME BACK FOR ME...

AND THE TRUTH IS, IF
CAROL STILL LOVES ME...



...THEN NOTHING CAN
GET ME DOWN.



SMASH!

AMANDA WALLER HAS WON.
A PLANETWIDE BLITZKRIEG HAS ROBBED THE
WORLD'S METAHUMANS OF THEIR
SUPERPOWERS AND RESOURCES. THOSE FEW
WHO HAVE THUS FAR EVADED CAPTURE ARE
FUGITIVES ON THE RUN, HUNTED MERCILESSLY
BY TASK FORCE VII, A REGIMENT OF
UNSTOPPABLE AMAZONS BUILT BY WALLER'S
ALLIES, FAILSAFE AND THE BRAINIAC QUEEN.

**ABSOLUTE
POWER**

**DEFENSES
DOWN**

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WELL, JORDAN.
HERE WE ARE...AND
WE CAN MAKE THIS
AS EASY OR AS
DIFFICULT AS YOU
WANT.

BUT...I KNOW
YOU. I'VE READ THE
PSYCH PROFILE. YOU'RE
GOING TO TAKE THE
HARD ROAD NO
MATTER WHAT.



IT'S MORE
SCENIC...



YOU HAVE
NO IDEA WHY
YOU'RE HERE,
DO YOU?

I CAN GUESS...
KARSHON, ALIEN TECH...
HARD TO GET THAT STUFF
WITH A QUARANTINE GOING
ON IN SPACE, UNLESS...
THAOROS ALLOWED IT.

YES...
IT SEEMS
YOU HAVE
SOMETHING
HE WANTS.

SO, WALLER,
YOU TURNING ME
OVER TO THE
UNITED PLANETS,
THEN?



HAH.
NO...

THAOROS
LIKES TO THINK HE HAS
IT ALL FIGURED OUT. THAT
WE EARTHLINGS ARE JUST
GOLDFISH IN A TINY BOWL
THAT HE'LL EVENTUALLY
FLUSH DOWN THE
TOILET.

BUT BY THE
TIME HE DECIDES TO
COME FISHING, HE WON'T
FIND MANY GOLDFISH AT
ALL. JUST A CONTAINER
FULL OF **SHARKS**.

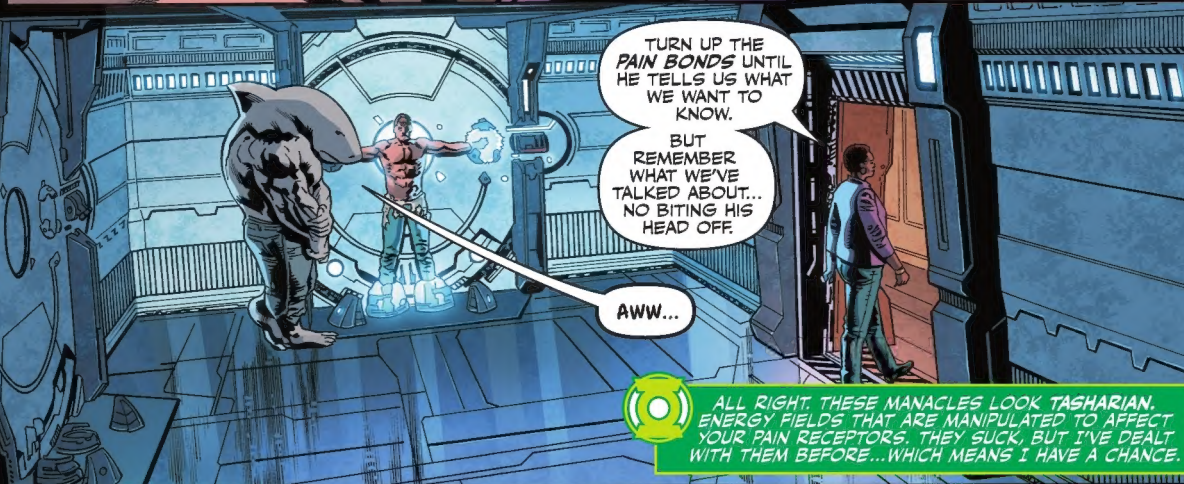


AMANDA WALLER...ALWAYS A PAIN IN THE \$#@. ONCE UPON A TIME, I HEARD HER DESCRIBED AS A NECESSARY EVIL. LOOKS LIKE SHE DIDN'T THINK NECESSARY SHOULD BE PART OF THE EQUATION ANYMORE.





I'M ALREADY
TAKING THE POWER
FROM *ONE* GREEN
LANTERN ON EARTH.
I HAVE NO PROBLEM
TAKING YOURS AS
WELL.



TURN UP THE
PAIN BONDS UNTIL
HE TELLS US WHAT
WE WANT TO
KNOW.

BUT
REMEMBER
WHAT WE'VE
TALKED ABOUT...
NO BITING HIS
HEAD OFF.

AWW...

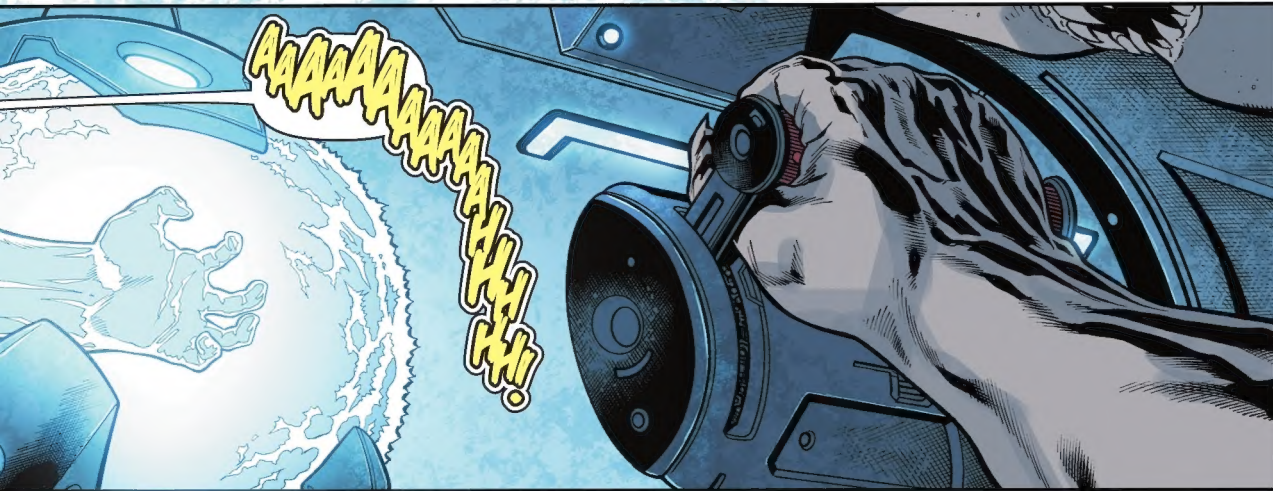


ALL RIGHT. THESE MANACLES LOOK TASHARIAN.
ENERGY FIELDS THAT ARE MANIPULATED TO AFFECT
YOUR PAIN RECEPTORS. THEY SUCK, BUT I'VE DEALT
WITH THEM BEFORE...WHICH MEANS I HAVE A CHANCE.



SO...
LET'S SEE
HOW TOUGH
YOU REALLY
ARE.

THIS IS GOING
TO HURT...A LOT.



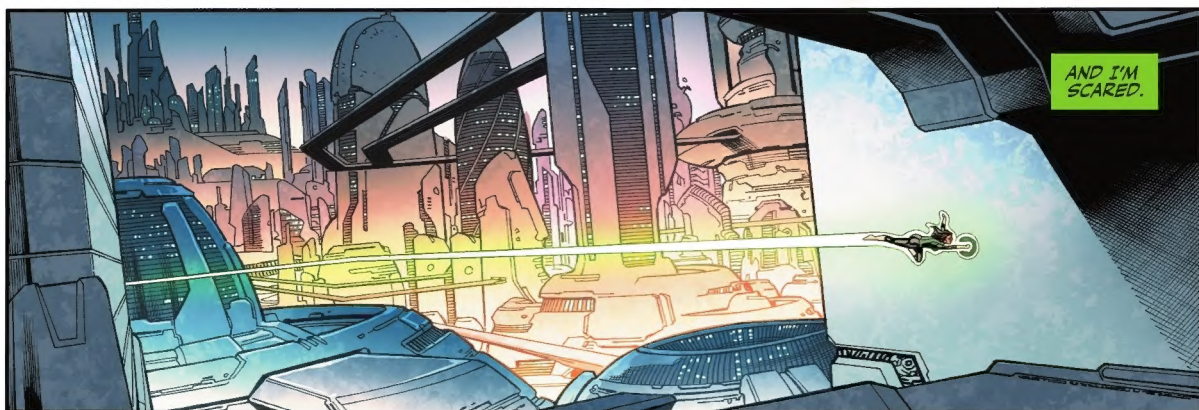
AAAAAA
AAAA
AAAA
HH
HH!



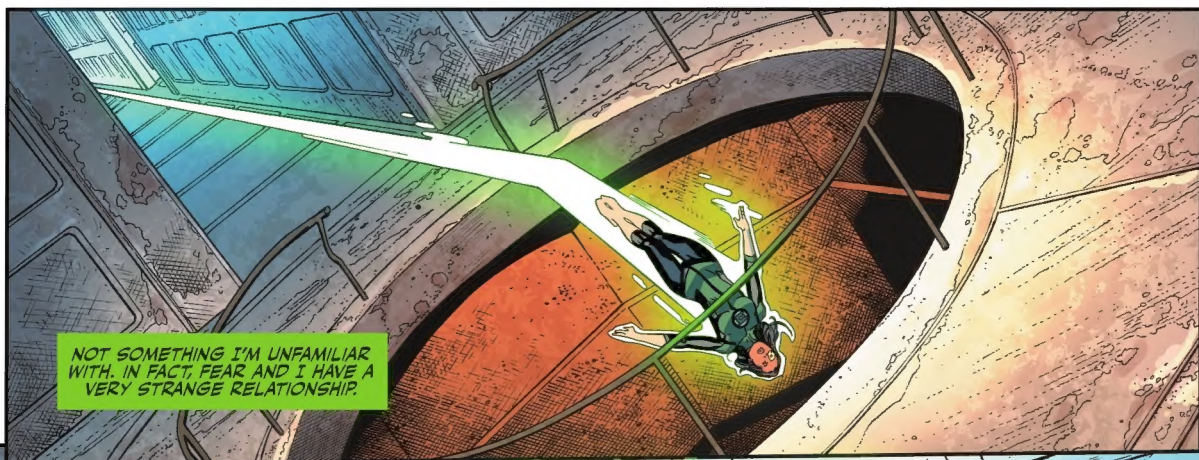
0A.



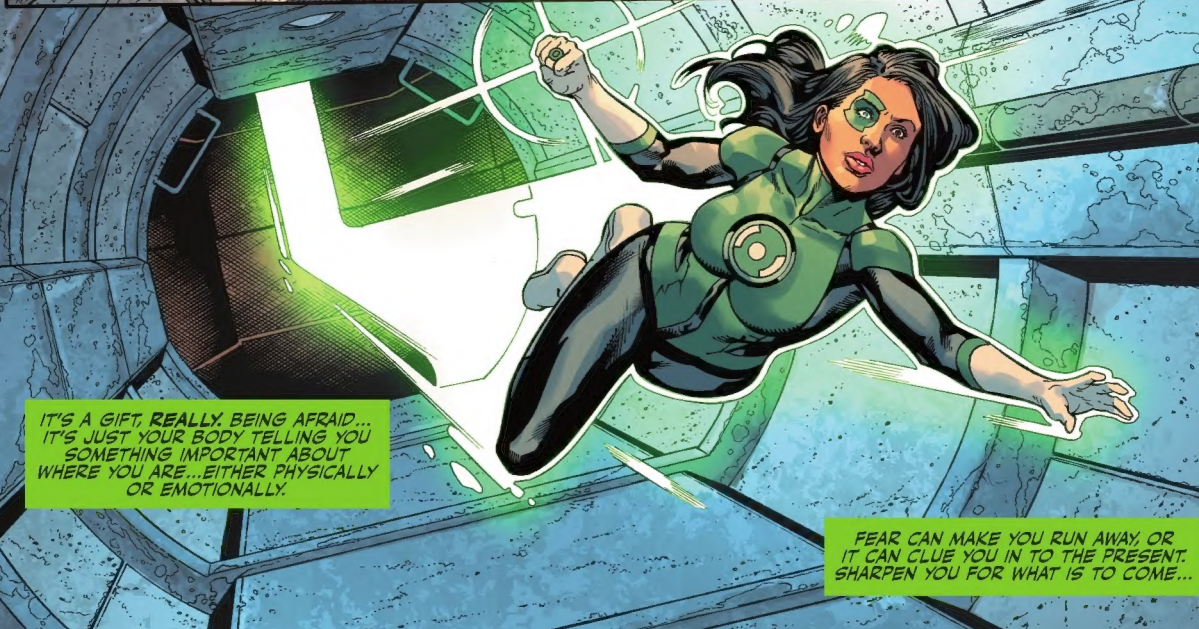
MY NAME IS
JESSICA CRUZ.



AND I'M
SCARED.



NOT SOMETHING I'M UNFAMILIAR
WITH. IN FACT, FEAR AND I HAVE A
VERY STRANGE RELATIONSHIP.



IT'S A GIFT, REALLY. BEING AFRAID...
IT'S JUST YOUR BODY TELLING YOU
SOMETHING IMPORTANT ABOUT
WHERE YOU ARE...EITHER PHYSICALLY
OR EMOTIONALLY.

FEAR CAN MAKE YOU RUN AWAY, OR
IT CAN CLUE YOU IN TO THE PRESENT.
SHARPEN YOU FOR WHAT IS TO COME...



LANTERN CRUZ, YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE.

I NEEDED TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE ALL RIGHT.



...BUT ONLY IF YOU HAVE THE WILL TO FACE IT.

WE ARE ON THE RUN FROM THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE UNIVERSE. SO, NO... WE ARE NOT ALL RIGHT.

RAZER!

DON'T MIND HIM, JESSICA. WE'RE ALL A LITTLE ON EDGE. WHERE'S HAL?



FROM THE TANTRUM THAAROS IS THROWING, HE ESCAPED. JO AND BAZ HAVE BEEN LOCKED UP IN THE SCIENCCELLS.

SO WE NEED TO FREE THEM.

IT'S TOO DANGEROUS. *THE UNSEEING* ARE PROBING THE MINDS OF EVERYONE ON THIS PLANET. THEY MAY EVEN KNOW *WE'RE* HERE.

THE ODDS AGREE.

THEN WE MOVE DEEPER INTO THE CORE. FARTHER FROM THEIR STRANGE MAGICKS.



I FEAR IT WON'T BE ENOUGH. THEY'RE WINNING, SALAAK. THAAROS HAS REPLACED THE UNITED PLANETS AMBASSADORS WITH OTHER DURLANS.

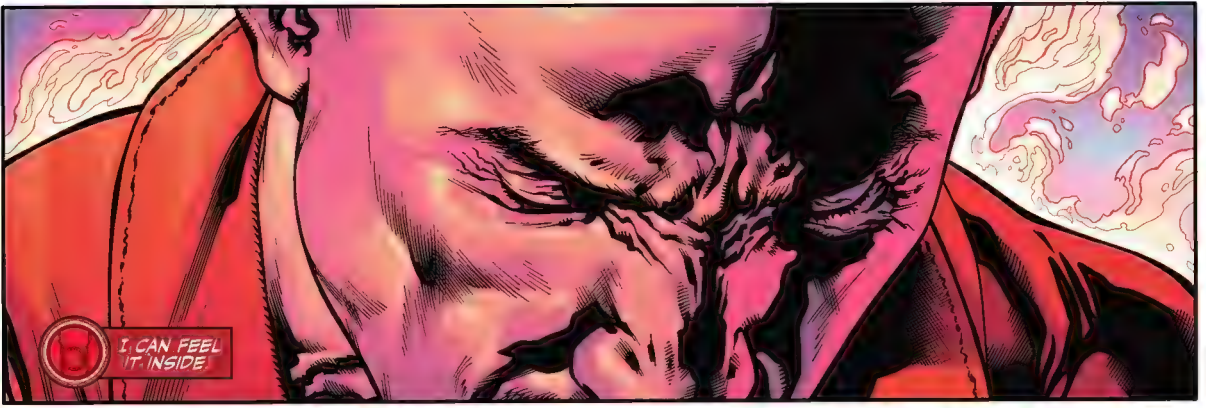
THEY'RE INFLUENCING POLICY ON WHOLE WORLDS WITHOUT HAVING TO FIRE A SHOT.

SURELY THERE ARE OTHER RACES THAT WILL STAND UP TO--

NO. HE JUST NEEDS TO CONTROL THE SPECTRUM...

YOU CONTROL
THE EMOTIONAL
SPECTRUM...YOU
CONTROL THE
UNIVERSE.







...AND EXACT SUCH A PRICE
OF REVENGE THAT THEY WILL
WHISPER MY NAME IN THE
SHADOWS FOR AGES TO COME

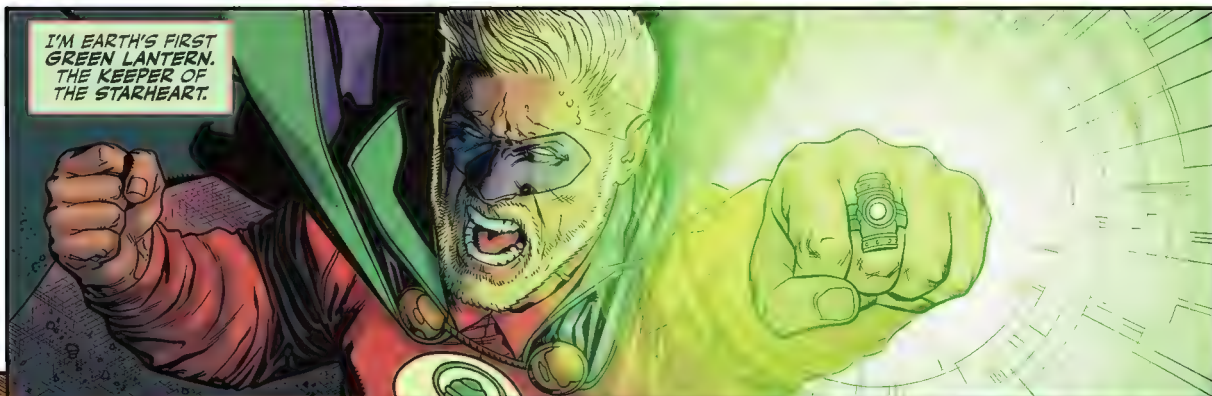


TO SEE MORE OF WHAT SINESTRO HAS
BEEN UP TO, CATCH SINISTER SONS #6
AND KNEEL BEFORE ZOD #7...



MY NAME IS
ALAN SCOTT...

**BATTERY PARK.
EARTH.**



I'M EARTH'S FIRST
GREEN LANTERN.
THE KEEPER OF
THE STARHEART.



I'VE BEEN FIGHTING BAD GUYS
SINCE BEFORE MOST OF THESE OTHER
HEROES WERE BORN. BUT RIGHT NOW...



...I'M IN DEEP TROUBLE.





I CAN FEEL IT. THE FUTILITY OF THE FIGHT. BUT JESSE QUICK ISN'T ONE TO GIVE UP.



AND NOW THAT IT HAS SOME OF JESSE'S SPEED THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO...



LAS VEGAS.

MY NAME IS NATHAN
ALLEN BROOME.

FOR MY ENTIRE LIFE, I DID WHAT I WAS
TOLD. I WENT TO SCHOOL. I GOT GOOD
GRADES. I MADE MY PARENTS PROUD.

AT EVERY TURN, I'D SEE THE RULE
BREAKERS GET AHEAD OF ME. THEY'D GET
THE PROMOTION, THE MONEY, THE GIRL...

AND I THOUGHT...IT WAS JUST A MATTER OF TIME. I'D DO OKAY, IF
I KEPT WORKING HARD. DOING WHAT'S RIGHT. AND THEN I MET
CAROL...THE ONE I WANTED TO MARRY. TO SPEND MY LIFE WITH...

BUT SHE DISAPPEARED IN
A FLASH OF COLOR, AND
I WAS LEFT WITH NOTHING...

NOTHING BUT A
DEEP SADNESS.

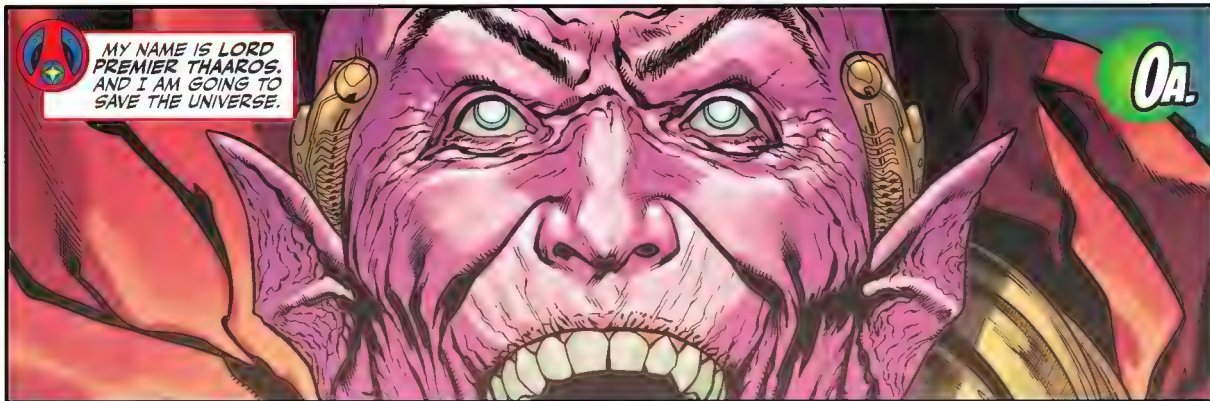
NOTHING
BUT...





MY NAME IS LORD
PREMIER THAAROS.
AND I AM GOING TO
SAVE THE UNIVERSE.

0a.



OUR REALITY HAS BEEN
A HAVEN OF DISORDER
AND CHAOS FROM THE
BEGINNING OF TIME.

THE OANS, SMALL IN BOTH
STATURE AND MINDSET, HAD
THE MOST POWERFUL
WEAPONS IN THE UNIVERSE,
AND YET...THEY DID NOTHING.
APOKOLIPS THRIVED.
MONGUL LIVED. WORLDS
SUFFERED.



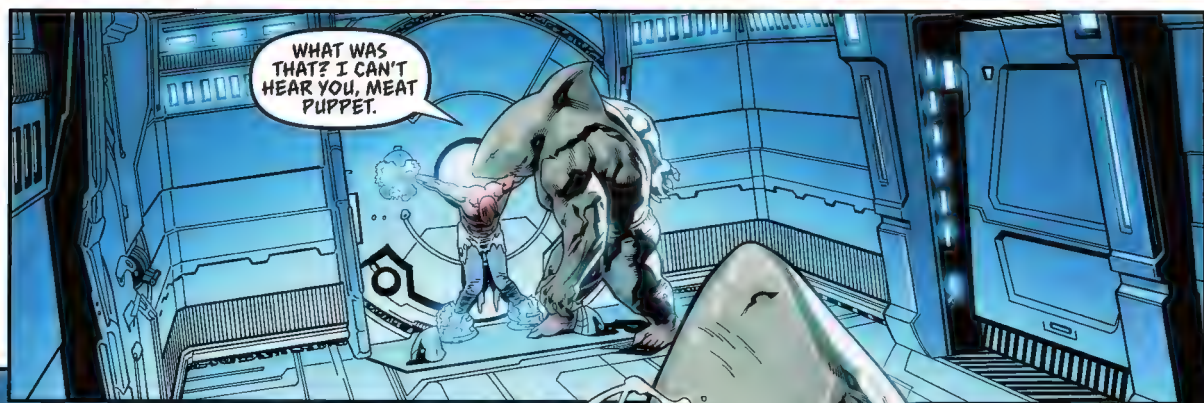
THEY SAT IDLY BY WHILE THE WORST
GREW IN POWER...AND ONLY ACTED
WHEN IT BENEFITED THEIR CAUSE.



I WILL MAKE NO
SUCH MISTAKE.

AND THEN...NO ONE CAN STAND
IN THE WAY OF MY PUTTING
RIGHT IN THE UNIVERSE ALL
THAT HAS GONE SO WRONG.







NOW, THESE TASHARIAN BONDS, THEY'RE ENOUGH TO KNOCK OUT MOST THAT TRY TO PULL AWAY FROM THEM. BUT IT'S JUST PAIN, AND WHAT DID KILOWOG USED TO SAY? PAIN IS JUST WEAKNESS LEAVING THE BODY!

COME ON! IT'S JUST PAIN, JORDAN! NOTHING BUT A FEELING! AND YOUR WILL CAN OVERCOME THAT DAMN FEELING!



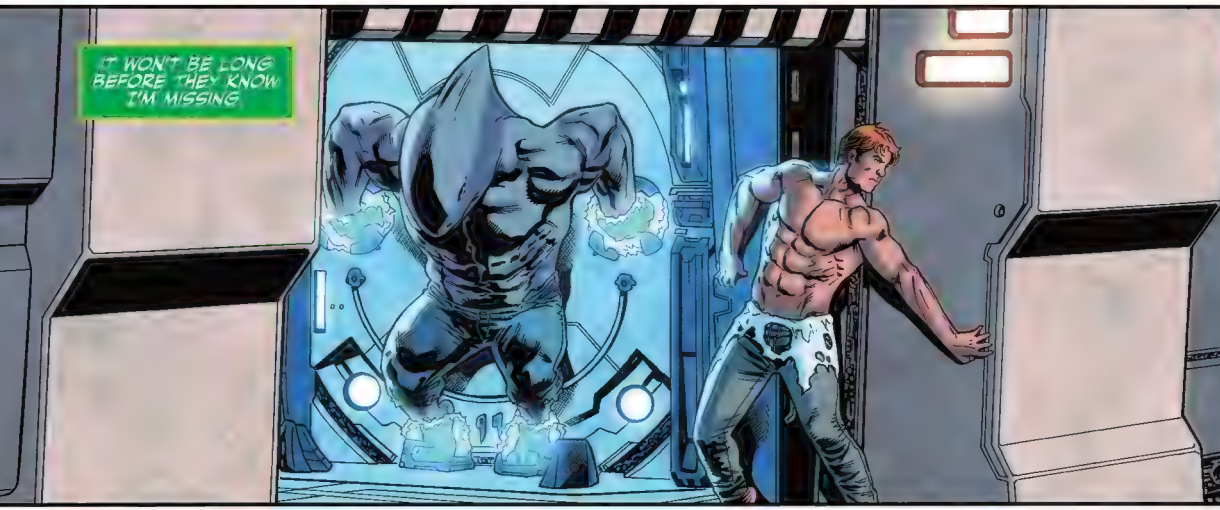
AAAAHHH!



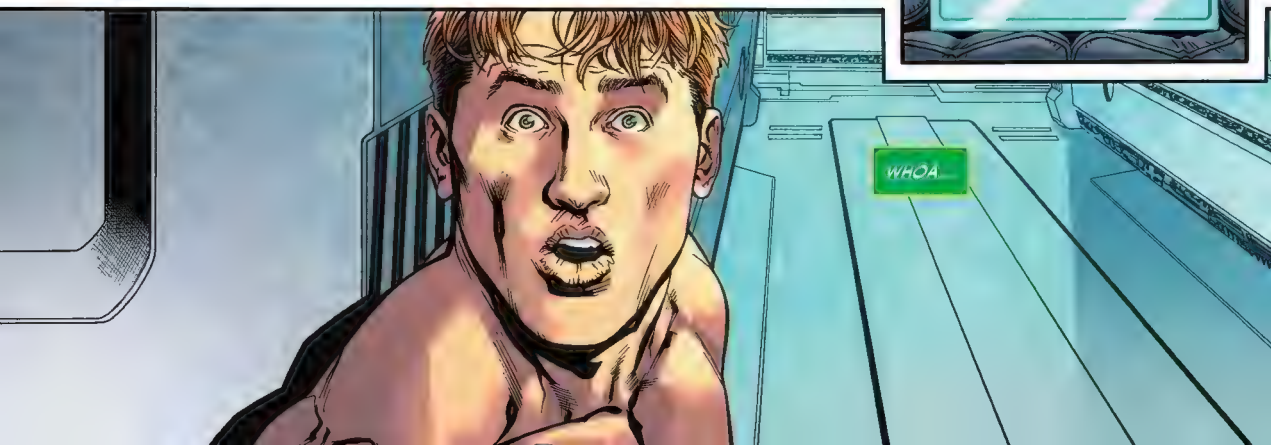
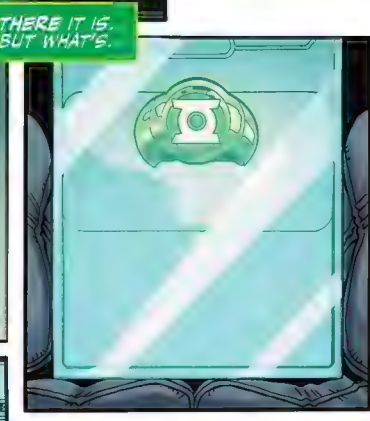
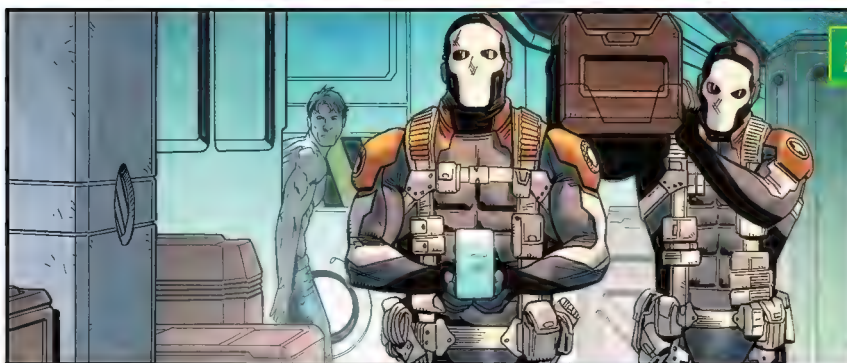
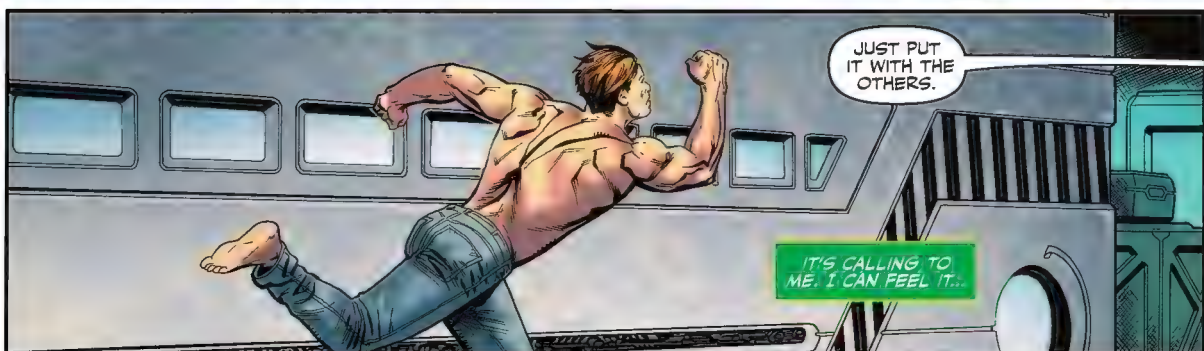
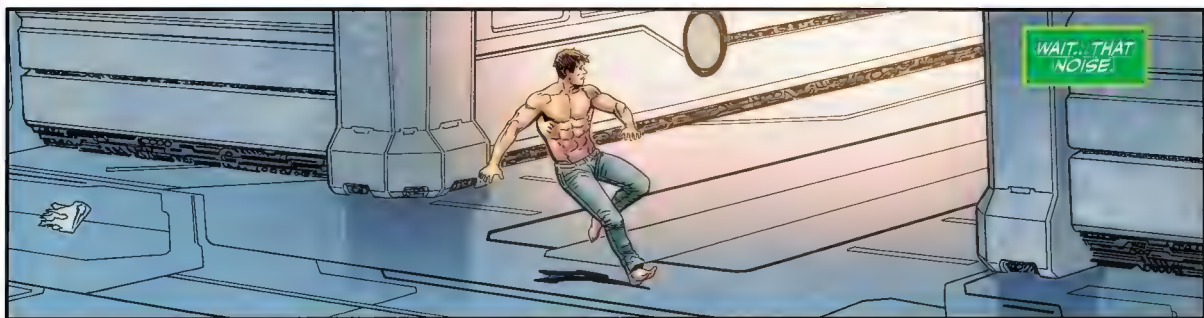
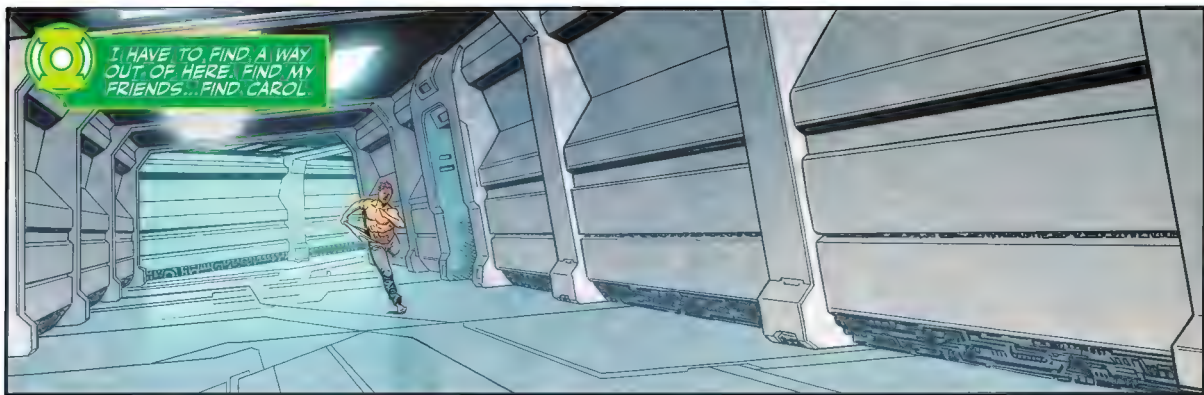
OW...



BUT WHAT TO DO ABOUT YOU?



IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THEY KNOW I'M MISSING.





HAL, OL' BUDDY LOOKS LIKE
YOU JUST HIT THE JACKPOT!



**NEXT:
HEIST!**



"THERE IS A **GORDANIAN PROVERB** I'VE GROWN FOND OF OVER THE YEARS...

"THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS ARE TREES WITH THE DEEPEST ROOTS."

"WELL, I ADMIT, THERE'S A **REASON** THE GORDANIANS AREN'T EXACTLY REVERED FOR THEIR COMMAND OF **LANGUAGE**.

"BUT I'VE TAKEN THE APHORISM TO MEAN THAT THE STRONGEST LESSONS ARE ONES WE LEARN IN **CHILDHOOD**.

"I WAS BUT A PUP. TEN YEARS OLD. I KNEW NOTHING OF THE WORLD, MUCH LESS THE **UNIVERSE**.

"MY HOME PLANET OF **DURLA** WAS A **MONARCHY** BACK THEN.

"AND LIFE WAS A COMPLEX **PUZZLE BOX** FILLED WITH THE DELICATE MOVEMENTS OF NOBLES AND BARONS AND LORDS.

"UNTIL ONE DAY."

PLEASE DON'T HIT ME AGAIN...

"MY FATHER WAS A **DUKE**. A GENTLEMAN AND A **GENTLE MAN**.

"HE WOULD NEVER RAISE HIS VOICE AT ME, MUCH LESS A **FIST** IN **ANGER**.

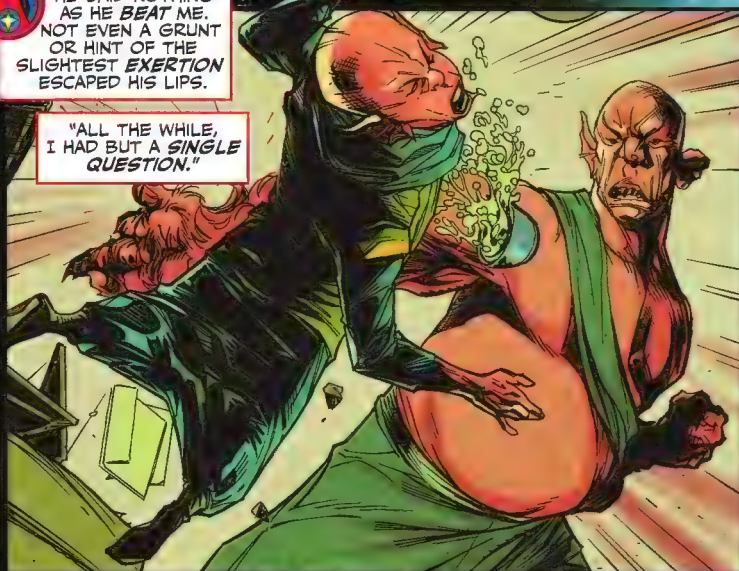
I PATIENT THE BLADE

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ARTIST: MATTHEW CLARK
COLORIST: MATT HERMS
LETTERER: DAVE SHARPE
ASSISTANT EDITOR: JILLIAN GRANT
EDITOR: PAUL KAMINSKI



"HE SAID NOTHING
AS HE *BEAT* ME.
NOT EVEN A GRUNT
OR HINT OF THE
SLIGHTEST *EXERTION*
ESCAPED HIS LIPS.

"ALL THE WHILE,
I HAD BUT A *SINGLE*
QUESTION."



WHY?



BECAUSE
YOU'RE WEAK.

AND YOU
NEED TO BE
TAUGHT NOT
TO BE.



AND
THE FIRST
LESSON--

HGH--



--IS
TRUST NO
ONE.

"THE EXPLANATION,
OF COURSE, WAS
THAT THIS *WASN'T*
MY FATHER AT ALL.

"RATHER, IT WAS
A LOCAL THUG,
A WILDARAT
NAMED GRUND.

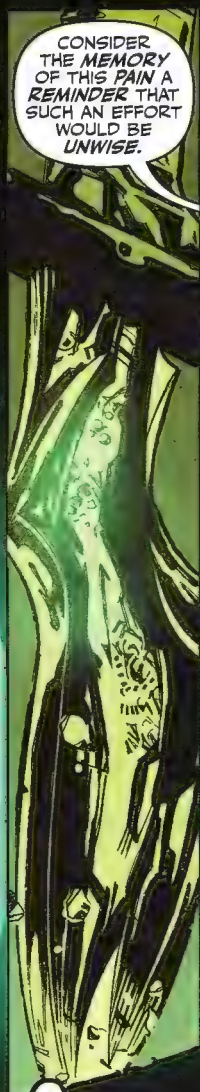
"HE ONLY *APPEARED* TO BE
MY FATHER BY VIRTUE OF THE
DURLAN ABILITY TO *SHAPE-SHIFT*."



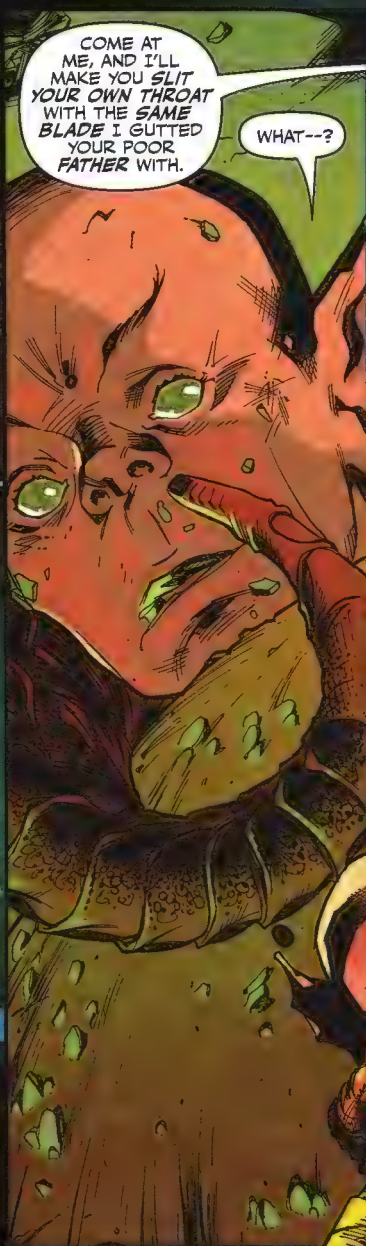
AND
THERE'S
ANOTHER
REASON.

ONE DAY,
YOU'LL GROW TO
MANHOOD AND YOU'LL
WANT TO TAKE YOUR
VENGEANCE
AGAINST ME.

GNF--!

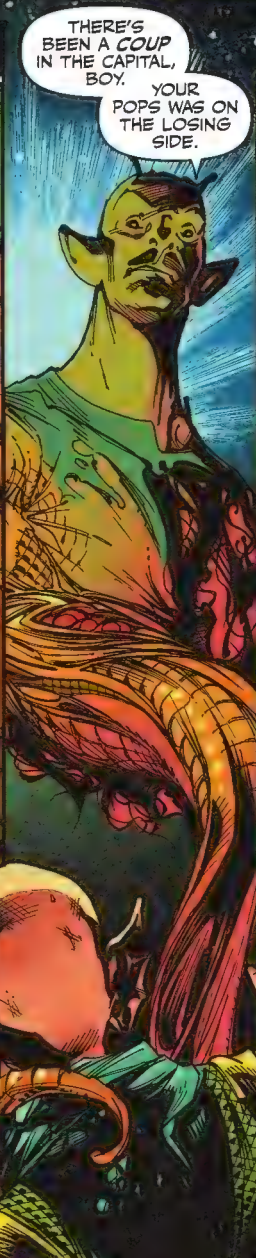


CONSIDER
THE MEMORY
OF THIS PAIN A
REMINDER THAT
SUCH AN EFFORT
WOULD BE
UNWISE.



COME AT
ME, AND I'LL
MAKE YOU SLIT
YOUR OWN THROAT
WITH THE SAME
BLADE I GUTTED
YOUR POOR
FATHER WITH.

WHAT--?



THERE'S
BEEN A COUP
IN THE CAPITAL,
BOY.

YOUR
POPS WAS ON
THE LOSING
SIDE.



REMEMBER
WHAT I TOLD
YOU.

SHUNK



"I DIDN'T."



"GRUND HAD
BEEN RIGHT.

"WHEN I GREW UP,
I'D TRY TO TAKE
REVENGE FOR WHAT
HE DID TO MY FATHER.



"THE EFFORT...DID
NOT GO WELL."



DO YOU
STILL HAVE IT?
THE KNIFE?

IT WAS YEARS
AGO AND MY MEMORY
FAILS ME. DID I TELL
YOU I'D FORCE YOU TO
OPEN YOUR OWN
NECK WITH IT?



"GRUND, I REALIZED,
HAD TAUGHT ME A
SECOND LESSON.

"I'M NO FIGHTER.
I'M NOT STRONG.



"SO I WOULD
HAVE TO BE
CUNNING."



AGH!

CHUNK



I WOULD HAVE
TO BECOME ADEPT
AT *DECEPTION* AND
PLANNING. TACTICS.
STRATEGY.

THOSE TOOLS
HAVE SERVED ME
WELL, AS YOU CAN SEE.
FROM COMPARATIVELY
HUMBLE BEGINNINGS,
I'VE RISEN TO THE
TITLE OF *LORD
PREMIER*.

I HOLD THE
POSITION OF THE
MOST POWERFUL
LEADER IN THE
UNIVERSE.

WHEREAS
YOU... ARE NOTHING
BUT A COMMON
CRIMINAL.

AND ARE YOU
AWARE OF YOUR
CRIME? DID THE
GREEN LANTERN
WHO APPREHENDED
YOU READ THE
CHARGES?

I... I WAS
CAUGHT TRYING
TO RUN THE
BLOCKADE...

WELL, IT'S
A LITTLE MORE
INVOLVED THAN
THAT, MY
FRIEND.

THE
SEGREGATION
OF SECTOR 2814
IS FOR THE *GOOD*
OF THE REST OF
THE *UNIVERSE*.



"IT'S MAINTAINED THROUGH
A NOT-INEXPENSIVE NETWORK
OF GREEN LANTERNS...

"...SATELLITES...

"...AND PATROL
SHIPS.

"THE *PURPOSE* OF WHICH IS
TO PREVENT THE *DECADENCE*
OF 2814 FROM *INFECTING* THE
REST OF THE UNIVERSE.

SUCH AS THE
WEAPONS YOU WERE
TRYING TO SMUGGLE
OUT ABOARD
YOUR SHIP.

SUCH *GHASTLY*
THINGS. BLUNT AND
BRUTAL. DARE I SAY
THEY STRIKE ME AS
EVEN...*INHUMAN*.

BUT
THAT'S NOT
YOUR CRIME,
NO...

YOUR CRIME
IS KILLING MY
FATHER.



WHAT--?

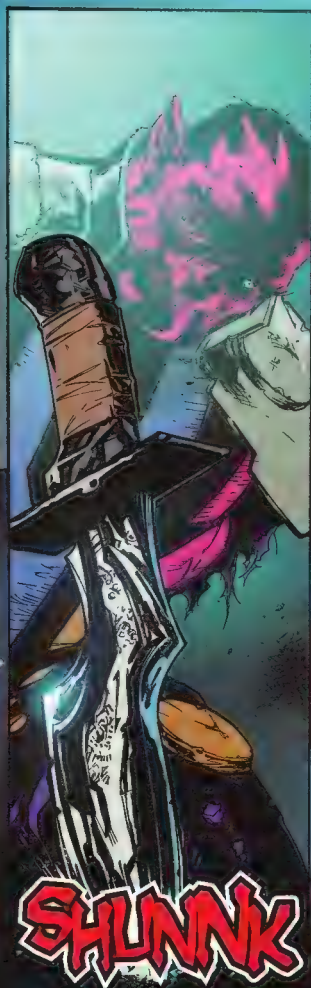
YOU *FOOLED* ME *ONCE* WITH YOUR SHAPE-SHIFTING--

LORD PREMIER THAAROS, I'M NOT A--

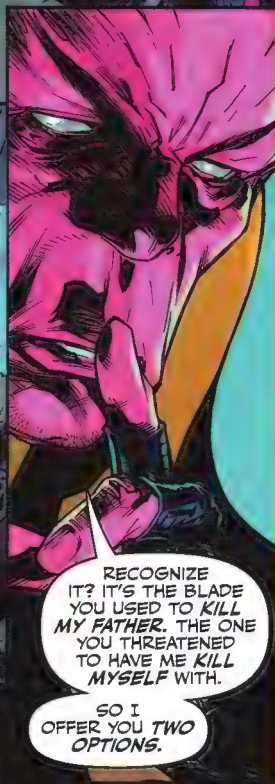
I SWORE TO MYSELF I WOULDN'T FALL FOR YOUR DECEIT AGAIN.

I DON'T--

SILENCE.



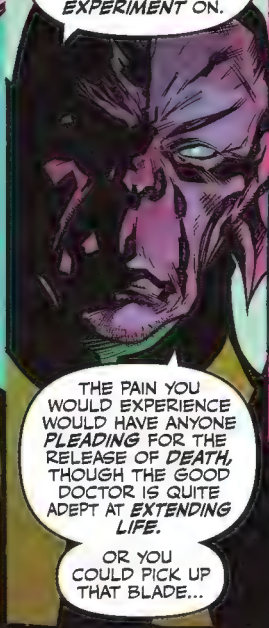
SHUNKK



I HAVE IN MY EMPLOY A *PSION DOCTOR*. A *SADIST* EVEN BY *PSION* STANDARDS. HE'S ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW SUBJECTS TO EXPERIMENT ON.

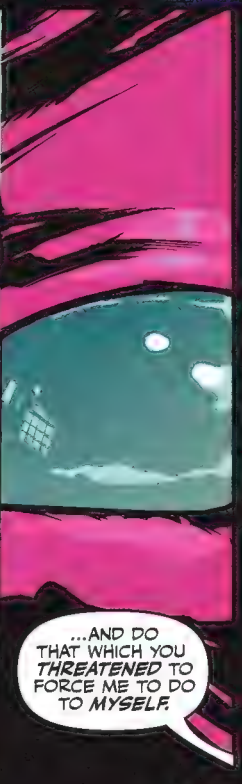
RECOGNIZE IT? IT'S THE BLADE YOU USED TO KILL MY FATHER. THE ONE YOU THREATENED TO HAVE ME KILL MYSELF WITH.

SO I OFFER YOU TWO OPTIONS.



THE PAIN YOU WOULD EXPERIENCE WOULD HAVE ANYONE *PLEADING* FOR THE RELEASE OF *DEATH*, THOUGH THE GOOD DOCTOR IS QUITE ADEPT AT *EXTENDING LIFE*.

OR YOU COULD PICK UP THAT BLADE...



...AND DO THAT WHICH YOU *THREATENED* TO FORCE ME TO DO TO MYSELF.



"THE CHOICE
IS YOURS."

EVERYTHING
ALL RIGHT IN
THERE?

NOT REALLY.
THE PRISONER
HAD A **BLADE**.

YOU SHOULD
CONDUCT YOUR
SEARCHES WITH
MORE RIGOR NEXT
TIME, **LANTERN
D'PROBA**.



WE SEEM
TO HAVE A LOT
OF PRISONERS
COMMITTING
SUICIDE
LATELY.

YES. AN
UNFORTUNATE
CONFLUENCE
OF EVENTS TO
BE SURE.



DISPOSE
OF THE BODY,
WOULD YOU?

...
YES,
SIR.



OH, AND
D'PROBA...?

HAVE THE
BLADE HE USED
CLEANED AND
TAKEN TO MY
QUARTERS.



IT REMINDS
ME OF MY
YOUTH...

END.

THE EARTH-SHATTERING
CROSSOVER OF THE YEAR
ARRIVES IN A STUNNING
HARDCOVER COLLECTION!

JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG COLLECTED EDITION

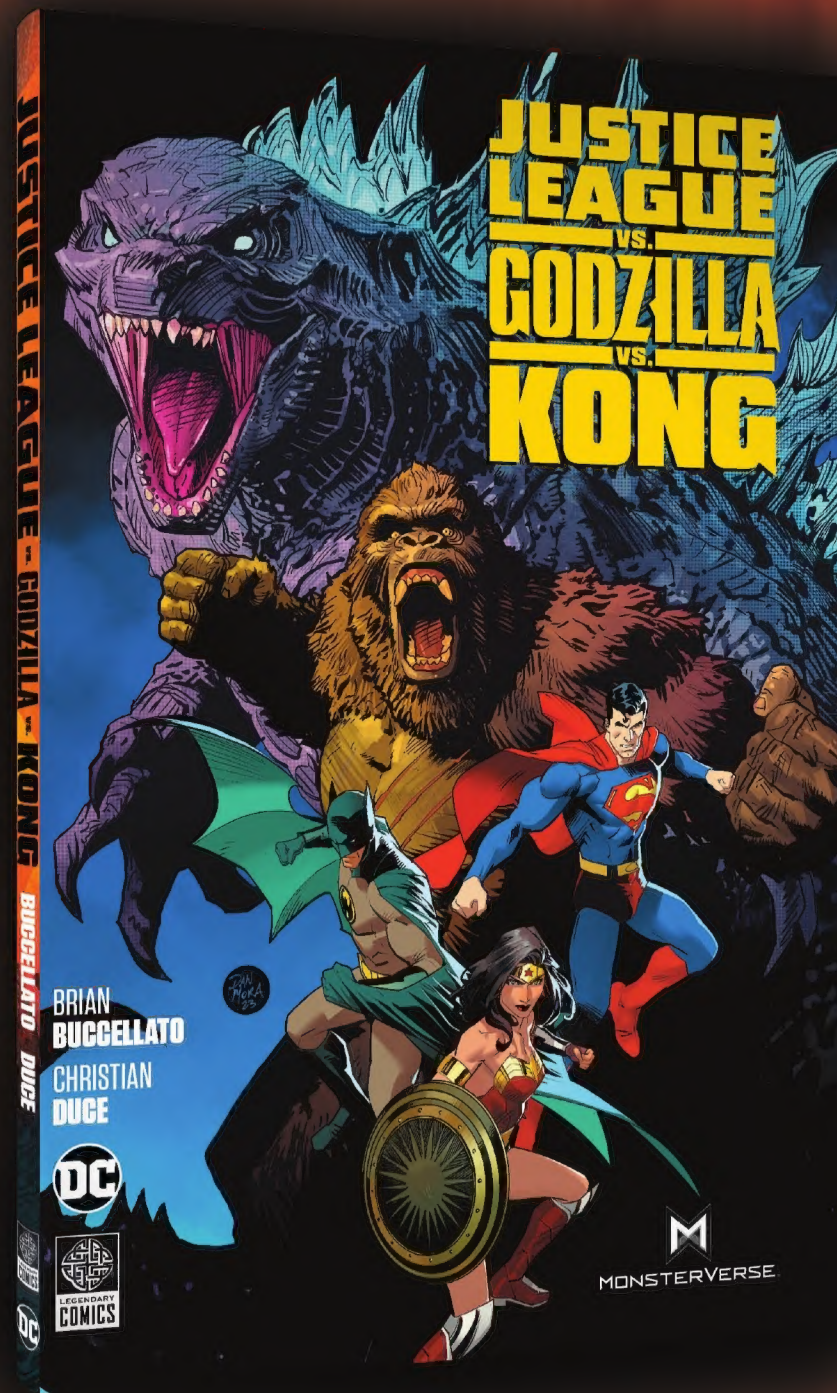
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JULY

"I thought we were ambitious making *Godzilla vs. Kong*,
but these guys took it to a whole new level."

—Adam Wingard, Director, *Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire*



Written by **BRIAN BUCCELLATO** • Art by **CHRISTIAN DUCE**



DARK KNIGHTS OF STEEL ALLWINTER

Interview with JAY KRISTOFF

Blood runs cold as a weathered Deathstroke stalks a frozen wasteland, killing for coin amidst a nation at war. Jay Kristoff, co-writer of *Dark Knights of Steel: Tales from the Three Kingdoms*, teams with artist Tirso to craft a brutal and epic tale set in the *Dark Knights of Steel* universe. DC Nation sat down with Kristoff to give fans a look into the series.

After penning a story in *Dark Knights of Steel: Tales from the Three Kingdoms*, what was it like to craft a full miniseries set in that universe?

Enormous fun! I was lucky enough to have a break between edits on *Empire of the Damned*, so I got to pen and plan out all six issues of the series simultaneously. These heroes and villains have an amazing legacy, and taking some iconic DC characters on a classic dark hero's journey in a fantasy setting was a true joy.



What kind of quest are we going to see Deathstroke go on, and how is this different from other versions of the character fans have seen?

The setting is Jarnlünd, a Norse-inspired island archipelago far to the north of the El Kingdom. For 21 years, Jarnlünd has been in the grip of endless winter, and Slade Wilson/Deathstroke gets dragged into a quest to end it, albeit accidentally.

The *Dark Knights of Steel* version of Slade is a very old and bitter one. He's near the end his life, and living with the mistakes of his past. This quest might be one last shot at redemption.



What are some of your favorite elements of sword-and-sorcery stories that you're bringing to this miniseries?

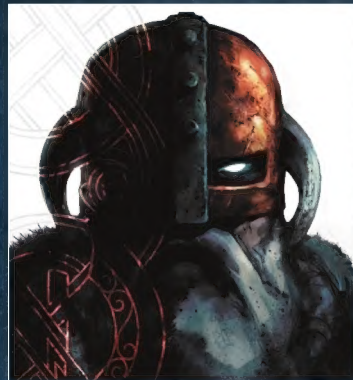
Grizzled mentor/plucky protégé is always going to be a favorite of mine. Epic battles. Strange magic. Brutal family politics. No dragons in this one, though.

Who are some other *Dark Knights of Steel* characters who will be playing a role in this story beyond Deathstroke?

I'm not sure how much I can reveal. There's a new take on a fan-favorite old Green character. A one-eyed shadow from Slade's past. A truly chilling villain...and a certain prince from the pages of *Dark Knights of Steel* may or may not make an appearance.

What has it been like collaborating with artist Tirso?

He's amazing. Just a real visionary, with a really unique style, and a true pleasure to work with. I can't wait for folks to see what we've come up with!



Don't miss
Dark Knights of Steel: Allwinter #1,
on sale this July!

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